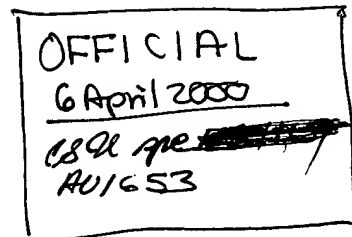


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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW  
PATENT, BIOTECHNOLOGY, COMPUTER,  
TRADEMARK & TRADE SECRET LAW



April 6, 2000

**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

PLEASE DELIVER TO: EXAMINER G. Bugaisky @ Art Unit 1653

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FACSIMILE NUMBER: (703) 308-0294

NUMBER OF PAGES (COUNTING COVER SHEET): 6

FROM: Benjamin A. Adler, Ph.D., J.D.

MESSAGE: Please deliver the attached to Examiner Bugaisky. Examiner Bugaisky, please find enclosed the Response to the Final Office Action for USSN 08/915,659 (Our ref.: D6020). Thank you.

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#19 4/7/2000  
Amend H/G (U.E.)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: O'Brien, et al.

§  
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§

ART UNIT: 1653

FILED: August 21, 1997

EXAMINER:

SERIAL NO.: 08/915,659

Bugaisky, G.

FOR: Novel Extracellular  
Serine Protease

DOCKET: D6020

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
BOX AF  
Washington, DC 20231

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Examiner G. Bugaisky at (703)308-0294 at the Patent Office on the date below.

April 6, 2000

Date

*Benjamin Aaron Adler*

Benjamin Aaron Adler, Ph.D., J.D.

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed February 4,  
2000, please enter the following amendments and remarks.  
Reconsideration of the pending claims as amended is requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

11. (thrice amended) A method of detecting TADG-14  
mRNA expression [of the protein encoded by the DNA of claim 1],  
comprising the steps of: